Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method for planning and scheduling tasks within at least one request for change (RFC) within a change window in a computing system, comprising the steps of

deciding whether or not an RFC should be done;

for each RFC to be done, assigning individual tasks within each RFC to acceptable servers;

for each RFC to be done, assigning the start times to said individual tasks.

2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of reserving all the servers involved for the duration that begins at the start of the first task and ends at the finish of the last task for each RFC that should be done.

3. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of maximizing the value of all RFCs done.

4. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of maximizing the number of RFCs done.

5. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing total downtime.

6. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing the costs associated with downtime.

7. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing the total execution time.

8. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of maximizing the number of RFCs meeting their deadlines

9. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing multiple deadline penalties associated with the RFCs and/or their respective tasks

10. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing the average response time of each RFCs.

11. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of minimizing the weighted average response time of each RFCs.

12. A system for planning and scheduling tasks within at least one request for change (RFC) within a change window in a computing system, comprising

an arrangement for deciding whether or not an RFC should be done;

an arrangement for assigning individual tasks to acceptable servers for each RFC to be done; and

an arrangement for assigning the start times to said individual tasks for each RFC to be done.

13. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for reserving all the servers involved for the duration that begins at the start of the first task and ends at the finish of the last task for each RFC that should be done.

14. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for maximizing the value of all RFCs done.

15. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for maximizing the number of RFCs done.

16. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing total downtime.

17. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing the costs associated with downtime.

18. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing the total execution time.

19. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for maximizing the number of RFCs meeting their deadlines

20. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing multiple deadline penalties associated with the RFCs and/or their respective tasks.

21. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing the average response time of each RFCs.

22. The system of Claim 12, further comprising an arrangement for minimizing the weighted average response time of each RFCs.

23. A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for planning and scheduling tasks within at least one request for change (RFC) within a change window in a computing system, the method comprising the steps of:

deciding whether or not an RFC should be done;

for each RFC to be done, assigning individual tasks within each RFC to acceptable servers;

for each RFC to be done, assigning the start times to said individual tasks.